

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4396

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

UNCLAS USUN 2117

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR UNSC BG

SUBJ: BANGLADESH MEMBERSHIP IN UN

REF: USUN 2116

1. FOLLOWING IS STATEMENT MADE BY AMB WILLIAM SCHAUFLE IN SC ON QUESTION OF ADMISSION OF BANGLADESH IN THE UN ON JUNE 10, 1974.

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MR. PRESIDENT, MY DELEGATION WAS PLEASED TO CONCUR IN THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH, AND TO JOIN OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL IN RECOMMENDING TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THE ADMISSION OF BANGLADESH TO MEMBERSHIP.

THE UNITED STATES RECOGNIZED THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH ON APRIL 4, 1972. FORMAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WERE ESTABLISHED ON MAY 18 OF THAT YEAR. MY GOVERNMENT HAS HAD CONTINUOUS REPRESENTATION IN DACCA SINCE 1949. THROUGH UNCLASSIFIED

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THESE YEARS, TIES OF TRADE, SHARED CONCERN FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOP-

MENT, AND PERSONAL FRIENDSHIPS HAVE GROWN EVEN STRONGER. CONSEQUENTLY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN PARTICULAR SATISFACTION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE EXCELLENT BILATERAL RELATIONS WHICH NOW EXIST BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

THE EXISTENCE OF BANGLADESH HAS NOT BEEN A MATTER OF DISPUTE DURING THE UNUSUALLY LONG PERIOD TAKEN TO CONSIDER THE APPLICATION JUST DECIDED UPON BY THIS COUNCIL. RATHER THE QUESTIONS RAISED BY SOME MEMBERS HAVE CONCERNED THE SETTLEMENT OF ISSUES THAT WERE STILL UNRESOLVED AT THE TIME OF THE CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES. WE JOIN OTHERS IN EXPRESSING GRATIFICATION REGARDING THE RETURN OF PRISONERS OF WAR IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF 1949 AND WITH THE 1971 SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION.

MY GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS THAT THE EFFORTS OF THE FORMER BELLIGERENTS IN SOUTH ASIA TO INITIATE A PROCESS OF REGIONAL RECONCILIATION DESERVE THE ENCOURAGEMENT AND ADMIRATION OF ALL PEACE-LOVING NATIONS. WE FULLY ENDORSE THE CONCEPT THAT REGIONAL PROBLEMS SHOULD BE SOLVED BY NEGOTIATION AMONG THE NATIONS MOST IMMEDIATELY INVOLVED IN THE REGION ITSELF. THE DETERMINATION OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF BANGLADESH, INDIA AND PAKISTAN TO DO SO HAS GIVEN NEW LIFE TO THE HOPE THAT HISTORIC RIVALRIES IN THE SUBCONTINENT CAN SOON GIVE WAY TO FRUITFUL COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIPS.

WE SHOULD NOTE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF PRIME MINISTER SHEIKH MUJIBUR RAHMAN, HAS PLAYED A STATESMANLIKE ROLE IN THESE DEVELOPMENTS. BANGLADESH HAS OVER THE PAST TWO AND ONE-HALF YEARS CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED ITS DEDICATION TO THE IDEALS AND TO THE CHARTER OF THIS ORGANIZATION.

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT LOOKS FORWARD WITH SINCERE PLEASURE TO THE ASSUMPTION BY BANGLADESH OF ITS RIGHTFUL PLACE IN THIS COMMUNITY OF NATIONS. I AM CONFIDENT THAT BANGLADESH WILL CONTRIBUTE A CONSTRUCTIVE AND FRESH NEW VOICE TO THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS. UNQTE.

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